Telecast of Weather Forecast by Doordarshan

746. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Ministry has asked the Doordarshan to telecast weather forecasts round the clock throughout the day, particularly during the monsoon season on lines of the BBC;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Doordarshan thereto;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore;

(d) whether Government agree that round the clock weather forecasts are necessary for agriculture; and

(e) what steps will be taken to this effect?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e) No such proposal has been received by Doordarshan from the Ministry of Agriculture. Since there is no round the clock transmission of the news from Doordarshan at present, it is not possible to telecast weather reports on the lines of BBC. Such an arrangement will necessitate extra manpower, infrastructural facilities etc. which is not feasible at present. However, from time to time special weather warnings reported by the Meteriological Office are noticed by Doordarshan in its news bulletins besides daily weather reports which form a regular part of Doordarshan's news bulletins.

दूरदर्शन नेटवर्क पर कार्यरत उपग्रह चैनल

747. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
श्री शमशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला:

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय दूरदर्शन नेटवर्क पर कार्यरत उपग्रह चैनलों की संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का कुछ नए चैनल प्रारम्भ करने का विचार है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या कुछेक कार्यक्रम बच्चों और युवाओं के हितों और उनके नैतिक मूल्यों के विपरीत निरन्तर प्रसारित किए जा रहे हैं;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(च) क्या उत्पाद के विज्ञापन के नाम पर प्रतिदिन अश्लीलता को प्रोत्साहन दिया जा रहा है; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो इसे रोकने के लिए सरकार का क्या कदम उठाने का विचार है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री एस॰ जयपाल रेड्डी): (क) अठारह, श्रीमन्।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) जी, नहीं।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(च) जी, नहीं।

(छ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Discontinuation of Films Division News

748. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Films Division News, which used to precede exhibition of any feature film in a Cinema hall, has lately been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons for discontinuing the same; and

(c) whether it used to serve an important object of informing the Cinegoers about the latest and current developments both at national and international levels?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The exhibition of Indian Newsreel (INR) which used to precede exhibition of feature films in cinema halls was discontinued in 1984 because by the time the news reel reached the audience in some parts of the country, the news content generally lost its relevance. In its place, news documentaries (called "News Magazines") are released to